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(71) Applicant: FUJITSU LIMITED  
Kawasaki-shi, Kanagawa 211-8588 (JP)

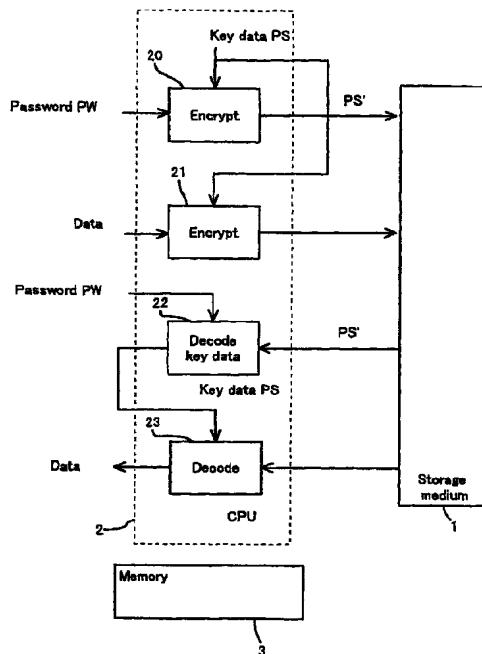
(72) Inventors:  
• Kobayashi, Hiroyuki  
c/o Fujitsu Limited  
Kawasaki-shi, Kanagawa 211-8588 (JP)  
• Uchida, Yoshiaki  
c/o Fujitsu Limited  
Kawasaki-shi, Kanagawa 211-8588 (JP)

(74) Representative:  
Seeger, Wolfgang, Dipl.-Phys.  
Georg-Hager-Strasse 40  
81369 München (DE)

### (54) Method of and apparatus for protecting data on storage medium and storage medium

(57) Disclosed are a method and an apparatus for protecting data on a storage medium by encrypting the data to be recorded on the storage medium with a password. This method comprises a step of, generating, for changing key data on each memory unit by one password, the key data, thereafter encrypting the key data with the password and writing the encrypted data to the storage medium, and a step of encrypting the data with the key data and encrypted data to the storage medium. The method further comprises a step of reading the encrypted key data from the storage medium, a step of decoding the encrypted key data with the password, and a step of decoding the data on the storage medium with the decoded key data. The encryption is done by using the key data generated separately from the password, and it is therefore feasible to prevent the password from being analyzed by decoding a cipher text.

FIG. 1





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## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim							
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A	* column 2, line 65 - column 5, line 45 *	2-7,9-14							
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<p>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">Place of search</td> <td style="width: 33%;">Date of completion of the search</td> <td style="width: 34%;">Examiner</td> </tr> <tr> <td>THE HAGUE</td> <td>13 July 2000</td> <td>Moens, R</td> </tr> </table>				Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	THE HAGUE	13 July 2000	Moens, R
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<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone      Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category      A : technological background      O : non-written disclosure      P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention      E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date      D : document cited in the application      L : document cited for other reasons      &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>									

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
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